

3. (Amended) A purified mouse DNA which encodes the protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

B1
4. (Amended) A purified DNA having a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

5. (Amended) A purified DNA having a nucleotide sequence with one to ten nucleotides deleted, substituted, inserted or added relative to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and encoding the protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

6. (Amended) A purified DNA having the nucleotide sequence consisting of the nucleotides 32-4804 of the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

B2
9. (Amended) A probe comprising a DNA fragment comprising a part of the DNA of claim

4.

REMARKS

Initially, Applicants thank the Examiner for vacating the Office Action dated December 18, 2001, and resetting the start of the three month statutory period for filing a response to the date of mailing the new Office Action, March 27, 2002. Applicants also thank the Examiner for returning duly initialed copies of the Form PTO-1449 with the Office Action, indicating consideration of the documents cited in the disclosure statements filed October 16, 2000, November 1, 2001, and May 23, 2001.

Applicants also express appreciation for the acknowledgment of Applicants' claim of priority